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THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

J.Gareth M.Williams, M.B., Ch.B.,D.P.H.

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REPORT OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR AND SURVEYOR

S.A.Hughes, M.A.P.H.I.

FOR THE

YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1971.

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C E I R I O G R U R A L D I S T R I C T

C O U N C I L

A N N U A L R E P O R T

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I have the honour to present my Annual Report on the Health and Vital Statistics of the Ceiriog Rural District Council for the year ended 31st December, 1971. As usual, I would wish to express my sincere personal thanks to all my fellow Officers for their continued kindness and co-operation throughout the year. I am also equally grateful to the Chairman and Members of the Council.

J.GARETH M.WILLIAMS.
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

C Y N G O R D O S B A R T H G W L E D I G

C E I R I O G

A D R O D D I A D B L Y N Y D D O L

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Mae'n anrhydedd gennyf gyflwyno fy Adroddiad Blynyddol ar Iechyd ac Ystadegau Bywydol Cyngor Dosbarth Gwledig Ceiriog am a flwyddyn a ddaeth i ben 31ain Rhagfyr, 1971.

Fel arfer, dymunaf fynegi fy niolch personol diffuant i'm holl gyd-swyddogion am eu caredigrwydd parhaol a'u cydweithrediad drwy gydol y flwyddyn. Rwyf hefyd yn llawn mor ddiolchgar i Gadeirydd ac Aelodau'r Cyngor.

J. GARETH M.WILLIAMS

SWYDDOG MEDDYGOL

POPULATION. The Registrar General's mid-year estimate of population was 6860 - a decrease of 230 as compared with 1970.

BIRTHS. The total number of live births was 93(55 males,38 females) a decrease of 33 on the 1970 figures.

Included in this total are 8 illegitimate births (10 in 1970 and 9 in 1969).

BIRTH RATE (Comparability Factor 1.12)

The crude birth rate was 13.6 births per 1,000 mid-year population. When this is adjusted by means of the comparability factor for comparison with England and Wales generally, this comes to 15.2. This is considerably lower than the 1970 adjusted figure of 19.9. It is also lower than the England and Wales adjusted figure of 16.0 for 1971. This England and Wales figure is exactly the same as for the previous year of 1970, following six successive years of decrease.

STILL BIRTHS Four still births occurred during the year,as compared with three in 1970.

DEATHS The total number of deaths was 94 (40 males,54 females) The total is six more than the 88 recorded in 1970.

Of this total over half (50 in all) were due to diseases of the heart and circulation. Of these 50, 26 were due to Coronary Thrombosis and 12 to Strokes. A similar pattern is shown in England and Wales generally.

The second highest category is Cancer,which accounted for 24 deaths in 1971. This was also the second highest cause in England and Wales.

The third highest category was due to disease of the Respiratory System (11) and this again follows the pattern of England and Wales generally.

DEATH RATE. (Comparability Factor 0.98)

The crude death rate was 13.7 per 1000 mid-year population. When adjusted for England and Wales generally this comes to 13.4, which is slightly higher than the England and Wales figure of 11.6.

INFANT DEATHS. It is pleasing to record that for the second year in succession no deaths occurred in infants under the age of one year (there were 2 in 1969 and 3 in 1968). There were also no maternal deaths.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES. The total number of notifications for the year were 148, sub-divided as follows (1970 figures in brackets):-

Food poisoning	-	1	(16)
Infective Jaundice	-	3	(4)
Measles	-	140	(1)
Scarlet Fever	-	1	(1)
Whooping Cough	-	1	(-)
Tuberculosis	-	2	(-)

The total number is considerably in excess of the22 notifications received in 1970. This is wholly accounted for by the large number of Measles notifications concentrated mainly in the last three months of the year.

It will be seen that two cases of Tuberculosis were notified after a blank year in 1970. Two cases were also notified in 1969 and 1968 respectively.

IMMUNISATION AND VACCINATIONS:-

1. DIPHTHERIA,WHOOPING COUGH AND TETANUS:

Number of Primary Courses completed	-	53
Number of Booster doses given	-	9

2. DIPHTHERIA/TETANUS:

Number of Primary Courses completed	-	3
Number of Booster doses given	-	72

3. POLIOMYELITIS:

Number of Primary Courses completed	-	64
Number of Booster Doses given	-	153

4. SMALLPOX:

Number of Primary Vaccinations given	-	35
Number of re-vaccinations	-	7

5. MEASLES:

The total number of measles vaccinations given during the year was 51.

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CHIROPODY SERVICE:

CLINIC	Number on Register at 31/12/71	Number of Sessions held in 1971	Total Attend-ances	Number on Waiting List at 31/12/71
CHIRK	62	46	274	Nil
GLYN CEIRIOG	27	9	51	Nil
LLANRHAEADR Y.M.	32	10	48	Nil
TOTAL	121	65	373	-

C E I R I O G R U R A L D I S T R I C T

C O U N C I L.

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A N N U A L R E P O R T

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Mr.Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I am pleased to present to you my report on the Public Health Inspector and Surveyor's Department of the Council for the past year.

I should like to record my thanks to my Staff for their faithful service and to my colleagues on the Staff, especially your Clerk and your Treasurer, Mr.R.T.Jones and Mr.D.G.Berrington, and to Dr.J.M.Gareth Williams for all their help and support and to you, Members of the Council, for your kindness and co-operation throughout the year.

S.A.HUGHES.
PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR AND SURVEYOR.

HOUSING DEVELOPMENT.

COLLIERY ROAD STAGE 2, LONGFIELD. he Ministry cont acts for the demolition of the remaining 31 aluminium bungalows at Bronywaun were completed at the beginning of the year but, due to the delay in the commencement of the work, the work on the second phase building programme was put back by some six weeks.
The development included for the erection of twenty three-bedroomed houses, twenty-two two-bedroomed houses and eight aged persons bungalows and the provision of two garage areas. The contractor started work in mid-February. Very good progress was made with the works and a number of the houses were due for completion in January 1972. The dwellings are provided with warm air "Electricaire" central heating and also have communal aerial systems for television reception.

HALTON. Fairly good progress was being made with this development but, due to very bad ground conditions on the site, works have been held up. Forty houses are to be built, being sixteen three-bedroomed houses, twenty-four two-bedroomed houses and ten aged persons bungalows. The dwellings will be heated by an open fire type appliance fitted with a high output back boiler to provide a measure of background heating from radiators.

CAER YSGOL. The Council were concerned with the slow progress made with this contract and the contractor was made aware of the penalty clause in the contract. The development of six two-bedroomed flats and four three-bedroomed houses were due for completion in October of this year but completion is not expected for a further six weeks.

RE-ROOFING. The re-roofing of 31 Council Houses in the Ceiriog Valley was completed in January of this year and a new contract was signed and the work completed during the year for the re-roofing of Nos.3-14 Maesyllan, Llansilin. A contract was also signed for the re-roofing of Nos.1-16 North View, Rhosywaun, and the work was commenced during the year but, due to slow progress on the contract, the work was not completed by the end of the year.

125 BRONYWAUN. A Tender was accepted for the erection of a bed sitting-room to accommodate a handicapped young person - the daughter of the tenant of this Council House - the contract price being £1,173.

PURCHASE OF HOUSES. The Council were given the opportunity to purchase from the National Coal Board their properties in the Chirk area, namely:

1 - 12 Myddelton Terrace.

1 - 20 Whitehurst Gardens.

1 and 2 Fir Bank Cottages, Whitehurst.

1 and 2 West Bungalows, Whitehurst.
1 and 2 The Nurseries, Whitehurst.
Nethersole, Chirk.

Craig Royston, Chirk.

The Council gave instructions for the Officers of the Council to negotiate the purchase thereof and these negotiations were completed and purchase of the properties made towards the end of the year in the sum of £12,000.

SLUM CLEARANCE.

Nos.1-50 Halton Terrace, Halton. Due to some little delay in the completion of the housing development at Maesyparc, Halton, families were still residing in these substandard houses. It is anticipated, however, that all families will be rehoused by the end of March 1972.

Nos.1-70 Chirk Green, Chirk. A fair proportion of these substandard dwellings are still being occupied but some progress was made during the year in accommodating families in other Council houses. With the completion of the Phase 11 development at Longfield being due in the new year, all the properties will be vacated after which demolition of these terraced houses will be undertaken.

Station House and Cottage, Whitehurst. The Council accepted an undertaking from the owner of the above property under Section 17 of the Housing Act 1957 not to let the property for human habitation until works had been carried out to make the dwellings habitable.

HOUSING ACT 1969.

Improvement Grants. Eight applications were received and approved by the Council for the provision of Standard amenities. The amount of grant involved was £2,502.

Fifteen applications were approved by the Council under the Discretionary Grant Scheme involving a total amount of grant of £14,537.

During the year, four Standard Grant improvement schemes were completed and £977 grant paid to owners and three Discretionary Grant Schemes were completed and a sum of £1,982 paid to owners.

Qualification Certificate. No applications were received during the year.

HOUSING REPAIRS ACCOUNT. The Council owned and maintained 1064 dwellings up to the end of the year and the following table shows the expenditure:

No.of Houses.	To Credit Repairs A/C.	To Debit Repairs A/C	Average cost per house.
1064.	£18,207	£16,701.	£17.

The number of repairs dealt with (excluding repainting works programmes) by Council Staff was: 887

The number of Council employees engaged on Housing Maintenance work is as follows:

Joiner	1.	Bricklayer	1.
Labourer (Craftsman)	1.	Plumber and waterworks attendant.	2.
General labourers.	2.	Painters	2.

Council House Tenancies. During the year, 42 Council dwellings became vacant for re-letting and the three Housing Committees met to consider the allocation of these dwellings to new tenants.

In addition, the Ceiriog Valley Housing Committee considered the allocation of tenancies of the four three bedroomed houses and six two-bedroomed flats Nos.17 to 26 Caer Ysgol, Glyn Ceiriog, and the Chirk Housing Committee met to consider the allocation of tenancies of the new 50 dwellings being built at Halton, Nos.21-70 Maesyparc, and also to allocate tenants to the 50 new dwellings being erected at Longfield, Chirk.

CARAVAN SITE AND CONTROL OF DEVELOPMENT ACT 1960.

23 Caravan Site Licences were operating at the end of the year involving 44 caravans.

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL WORKS.

The Council now own 14 sewage disposal plants in the area which are maintained by an outside Staff of four operators, together with the aid of an irrigation unit employing one operator.
Samples of the effluent discharged are regularly taken by the Dee and Clwyd River Authority and the Severn River Authority to see that the quality of the effluents meet with the discharge standards laid down.

AFON BRADLEY.

During the year reports were made by the Council's Solicitors and Consultant Engineers to the Council with regard to the condition of the Afon Bradley into which the effluent from the Council's sewage works at Rhosywaun, surface water sewers from public highways and Factory areas and overflow from the Shropshire Union Canal, discharges.
A scheme for improving the watercourse and for culverting it in various places was approved by the Council and a Tender for the works in the sum of £6,115 was accepted.
It was hoped that the works would have been completed by the end of the year but, due to legal difficulties, the start was delayed until November. Completion is due in February 1972.

SEPTIC TANK EMPTYING SCHEME.

During the year 176 septic tanks were emptied by the Council under the scheme for the free emptying of tanks once every two years. This shows an increase over the comparable year of 1969 when 142 tanks were dealt with.

PUBLIC CONVENIENCES.

The Council have six Public Conveniences in the district. These premises are a target for vandalism and it would appear that we have had our fair share. The Council decided several years ago to remove all coin operated locks in these premises.

WATER SUPPLIES.

During the year, the Council supplied 175.75 million gallons of water to the district, having received bulk supplies of water amounting to 68.8 million gallons from the Wrexham and East Denbighshire Water Company, The Liverpool City Waterworks and the West Shropshire Water Board.
A bulk water supply is also given to the Montgomeryshire Water Board amounting to 4 million gallons.
The metered water supplies to Industrial and Trade premises amounted to just over 21 million gallons and those to agricultural premises to ten million gallons.

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL.

The Council accepted a tender for the purchase of a new Refuse Collecting vehicle to replace one which has given nearly 12 years service. Standards regarding the road worthiness of vehicles are becoming more strenuous and regulations for the Plating and Testing of vehicles will be introduced for such vehicles as they are already in force for transport in the private sector.
A weekly collection service is maintained, carried out by six operators and three vehicles.
Tipping is carried out at Lower Halton, Chirk, and use is made of the Council's tractor fitted with a blade for levelling purposes.

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT 1963.

The following table shows the particulars of premises registered with the Council under this Act:

REGISTRATIONS AND GENERAL INSPECTIONS.			
Class of Premises.	Numbers of premises newly regis. during year.	Total no. of regis. premises at end of year.	No. of regis. premises rec. one or more gen. inspections during year.
Offices.	2	10	2
Retail shops.	2	27	8
Wholesale shops, warehouses.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.
Catering establishments open to public, canteens.	Nil.	5.	2.
Fuel storage depots	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.
	4.	42.	12.

Number of visits of all kinds (including general inspections) to registered premises - 25.

It was necessary to draw attention of the occupier and/or owner to contraventions in 5 cases under this Act.

SLAUGHTERHOUSES AND MEAT INSPECTIONS.

There is only one licensed slaughterhouse in the district for the slaughter of animals for human consumption.

The table below shows numbers and particulars of animals dealt with:

Carcases Inspected and condemned.	Cattle exc. cows.	Cows.	Calves	Sheep & Lambs.	Piga.
Numbers killed.	32.	Nil.	Nil.	460	60
Numbers not inspected.	nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.
All diseases except Tb.& CB.					
Whole carcases condemned.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.
Carcases of which some Parts or organs were condemned.	2.	Nil.	Nil.	11.	4.
TB only.					
Whole carcases condemned.	Nil.	Nil	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	2.
Cysticerci					
Whole carcases.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.
Carcases of which some parts or organs were condemned.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.

72 visits were paid to slaughterhouses for the purpose of meat inspections. All carcases and offal were inspected and stamped in accordance with the regulations laid down. Charges were made for this service at the following rates:

Inspection of Beasts	12½p.
Inspection of Sheep.	2½p.
Inspection of Pigs.	4p.

65 lbs. of meat and offal were condemned as unfit for human consumption.

UNSOUND FOOD.

A total of 959 lb. of canned and frozen foods were surrendered to the Department as unfit for human consumption.

SANITARY INSPECTIONS. The following inspections and visits were made during the year:

Housing	801.
Water supplies.	521
Sewerage and sewage disposal.	309.
Building Regulations.	732
Meat inspection.	51.
Public Health.	77
Offices and shops.	34
Miscellaneous.	383.

BUILDING REGULATIONS 1965.

During the year 98 applications were received for Building Regulation consent which were considered and approved by the Council.

732 inspections and visits were made to works in progress.

The residential development at Upper Wharf, Chirk, makes it necessary for the Building Inspector to make daily and more frequent visits to the site.

Work also commenced towards the end of the year on the erection of new factory premises for Messrs.Kronospan Limited. This will be a very large development with buildings of some great length. This development will also require frequent visits from the Building Inspector.

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1962.

107 applications were received during the year for permission to develop land in the district. These were forwarded to the Denbighshire County Council as the Local Planning Authority to determine such applications. Observations were made on these applications by the Council and these were forwarded to the Local Planning Authority.

RECLAIMATION OF LAND.

The final stages of the scheme for the reducing and levelling of the Brynkinallt spoil heap were completed during the year. Trees have been planted around the finished faces and in three or four parts of the levelled area. The contract was dealt with by Mr.R.W.Aubrey who also arranged for local schoolchildren to carry out the actual planting of the trees.

FACTORIES ACT 1961. Inspections were made as follows:

Premises. 1.	Number on Register. 2	Number of inspections. 3	Written notices. 4	Occupiers Prosecuted. 5
i Factories in which Sect.1,2,3,4 & 6 are to be enforced by local authorities.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.
ii Factories not included in i in which Sect.7 is enforced by the local authority.	36	17	Nil.	Nil.
iii Other premises in which Sect.7 is enforced by the local authority.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.
TOTAL:	36	17	Nil.	Nil.

CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND.

PARTICULARS 1.	No.of cases in which defects found		No.of cases in which prosecutions were instructed.	
	Found. 2.	Remedied. 3.	Referred to H.M. Insp. 4.	By HM. Insp. 5. 6.
Want of cleanliness (S.1) Overcrowding (S.2) Unreasonable temperature (S.3) Inadequate ventilation (S.4) Insufficient drainage of floors (S6)	NIL.		NIL.	
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7) (A) Insufficient. (B) Unsuitable or defective. (C) Not separate for sexes. Other offences against the Act (not inc. offences relating to outwork.)	NIL.		NIL.	